



Attorney General Jon Bruning

# News Release

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## AG Bruning: Nebraska Consumers to Begin Receiving Refunds from E-book Settlement

LINCOLN – Attorney General Bruning today announced Nebraska consumers affected by E-book price fixing will begin receiving account credits or checks this week in partial settlement of a 2012 lawsuit brought by Nebraska and attorneys general from 32 other states. The lawsuit was brought against Apple, Inc. and five of the six largest E-book publishers in the country. The approximate amount of settlement dollars to be paid to consumers in Nebraska is \$837,289.

“Nebraska consumers are entitled to a fair, open and competitive marketplace,” said Bruning. “This settlement helps to ensure consumers are compensated for the publishers’ alleged disregard for antitrust laws.”

This settlement resolves allegations against publishers Harper Collins, Hachette, Simon and Schuster, MacMillan and Penguin.

### *Consumer Compensation Details*

An account credit or check will be based on the E-book retailer and the number of eligible E-books purchased by a consumer during the claims period (April 1, 2010 to May 21, 2012).

For E-books purchased through:

- **Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Kobo or Apple:** Consumers should have received an email notice from the retailer or from the Settlement Claims Administrator advising how to use or activate credits in their current accounts.
- **Sony:** Consumers should have received an email notice from the Settlement Claims Administrator and will receive a check from the Settlement Claims Administrator.
- **Google and any other retailer not listed above:** Consumers should have been notified by the retailer via email with instructions on filing a claim form. If a timely claim was made, they will receive a check from the Settlement Claims Administrator.

If consumers cannot find their email notice from a retailer or the Settlement Administrator to confirm their compensation eligibility, they are encouraged to review their “junk” or “spam” folders.

More information on the settlement can be found at [www.ebookagsettlements.com](http://www.ebookagsettlements.com).

### ***Ongoing Action Against Apple***

In a three-week trial conducted in June 2013, a U.S. District Court found Apple played a central role in facilitating and executing a conspiracy to eliminate retail price competition in order to raise E-book prices, in violation of federal and state antitrust laws. A second trial will be held this summer to determine the amount of damages Apple must pay for that violation. If successful, additional account credits or checks will be distributed to consumers in the future.

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